



INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification ⁶ : H01J 13/00	A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 97/41586 (43) International Publication Date: 6 November 1997 (06.11.97)
<p>(21) International Application Number: PCT/US97/07075</p> <p>(22) International Filing Date: 25 April 1997 (25.04.97)</p> <p>(30) Priority Data: 08/638,360 26 April 1996 (26.04.96) US</p> <p>(71)(72) Applicant and Inventor: SCHWOB, Pierre, R. [US/GB]; Tower 1, Apartment 7C, Euston Court, 6 Park Road, Hong Kong (HK).</p> <p>(74) Agent: SHARROTT, Douglas; Fitzpatrick, Cella, Harper & Scinto, 277 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10172 (US).</p>	<p>(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, HU, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, UZ, VN, ARIPO patent (GH, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).</p> <p>Published <i>With international search report.</i> <i>Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.</i></p>	

(54) Title: INTERNET ACCESS VIA NON-HOME SERVICE PROVIDERS

(57) Abstract

A system capable of granting Internet access to users (100) when direct connection to their usual home Internet Service Providers (ISPs) is impossible, impractical or prohibitively expensive. The system offers users (100) a unified method of login to other independent ISPs (102) to provide easy and inexpensive access to the Internet and its various services. The system validates user logins, generates billing data, provides usage time and monitors communication links. The system also isolates the shells of the servers of the ISPs (102) from the user (100) until such time as the user has been determined to be valid, thereby providing security to the ISPs (102) against unauthorized access to their servers. The system performs these tasks while requiring only a small amount of communication bandwidth for communication monitoring and billing.

